

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TOSHIHIRO IFUKU ET AL.

Examiner: Jaydi A. Aguirrechea

Group Art Unit: 2834

May 8, 2006

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents, together with English-language translations thereof, are enclosed.

The listed documents were cited in an Japanese Office Action dated November 25, 2005, in a corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the Office Action is also enclosed.

Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

FORMAL MATTERS

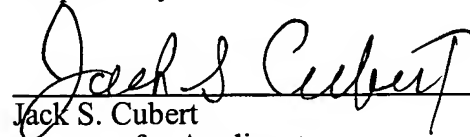
Enclosed herewith is a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the fee for this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2). Please charge any additional fee and credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Jack S. Cubert
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 24,245

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
JSC/llp
DC_MAIN 237141

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

03500.017882

APPLICATION NO.

10/772,260

APPLICANT

TOSHIHIRO IFUKU ET AL.

FILING DATE

February 6, 2004

GROUP

2834

Submitted: May 8, 2006

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
9-37392	02/1997	Japan			Translation
10-223476	08/1998	Japan			Translation
2000-256098	09/2000	Japan			Translation
2001-313429	11/2001	Japan			Translation

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

JSC/lip

DC_MAIN 237141v1